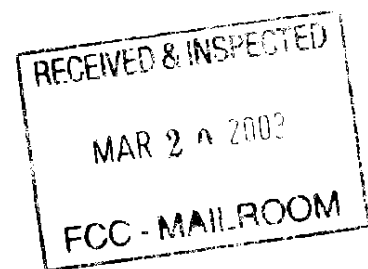


EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

02-277



Dear Kathleen Q. Abernathy

Confirmed

MAR 2 2003

Distribution Item

Hello. Today is March 4<sup>th</sup> 2003. This means that I have been a proud permanent resident of this country of yours for exactly two years and one day! The first thing I bought in this country was a radio; it was my third day here! My knowledge of English was extremely small, not even sufficient enough to understand what the lady at Wall-mart's cash register told me. I wanted a radio so I could listen and eventually understand English. It was in my ears day and night, even at sleep. At first I didn't understand anything; they were all the same to me. I could only recognize the music if I heard it again. To this point I still don't understand some of it, but I mainly understand. I live in San Francisco Bay area, in a small city in the southern bay called Cupertino. The radio programs in this part of the country are very similar. In fact they are not different. My radio listening experience has not changed much from when I didn't understand English; at both times all the radio stations sounded exactly the same, but now I know for certain that they are not different. I wanted to know why, so I researched and figured out that almost all the radio channels in the bay area (with the exception of a few like NPR which is one of my favorites and is located in Washington.) are owned by a big company named Clear Channel. The huge company says only the things that are good for his own profits, in all of its stations. Therefore they all sound like they are the same. That is bad quality. Is there anything you could do about it? I asked my friend from school, his father works in one of the Clear Channel's radio stations. He asked him and he said you are the one who has the power to change this. I want to ask you something, please answer me. I come from Iran, there are several radio stations there, all owned by only one organization, the government! They only say what the government says; all they do is only good for the government. Every thing is heavily censored and broadcasted they way government wants it too. There is absolutely no freedom of speech. Now please tell me, how is that any different from what Clear Channel is doing? I think clear channel is even worst, because the Iranian government's goal is at least to benefits it's citizens, but on the other hand all Clear Channel cares for is its own profits. Please change that, and help radio become more than a tool merely for listening and understanding English.

Thank you very much,

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Farzad Hashemi".

Farzad Hashemi

De Anza Community College student

[illegible]